



PRISM

A FREE quarterly publication for KPL patrons and community members.

March, April, & May 2022

Tax Forms Available!

All KPL locations have tax form packets available. Each packet includes: **IRS 1040** and **1040-SR** booklet and instructions
MI-1040 booklet and instructions
MI-1030CR-7 (Home Heating Credit Claim form) and instructions.
Spanish language forms and instructions are available at our Washington Square Branch.
Don't need the whole packet? Come into any branch to get individual forms or instructions.
For more information, please visit kpl.gov or call (269) 553-7800.



Party in the Park 2022!

Wednesday, May 25 | 10-11 am
Bronson Park & kpl.gov

See page 4 for more details ...

2022
**Reading
Together
for
20
YEARS**

THE BEST WE COULD DO



Meet the Author: **Thi Bui**

EVENT MOVED ONLINE!
Tuesday, March 22, 2022
7 pm | KPL Live

See page 6 for more details ...

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Dates and times for programming may change due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic. Please visit kpl.gov for up-to-date information.

KPL Current Hours

Alma Powell Branch (POW)

Monday, 1–6 pm | Tuesday, 1–8 pm
Wednesday, 1–6 pm | Thursday, 10 am–6 pm
Friday, 10 am–5 pm | Saturday, 10 am–2 pm
Sunday, CLOSED

Central Library (CEN)

Monday–Thursday, 9 am–8 pm
Friday, 9 am–6 pm | Saturday, 10 am–5 pm
Sunday, 1–5 pm

Eastwood Branch (EAS)

Monday, 1–8 pm
Tuesday–Wednesday, 1–6 pm
Thursday, 10 am–6 pm | Friday, 10 am–5 pm
Saturday, 10 am–2 pm | Sunday, CLOSED

Oshtemo Branch (OSH)

Monday–Tuesday, 10 am–8 pm
Wednesday–Thursday, 10 am–6 pm
Friday–Saturday, 10 am–5 pm
Sunday, CLOSED

Washington Square Branch (WSQ)

Monday–Tuesday, 1–6 pm
Wednesday, 1–8 pm | Thursday, 10 am–6 pm
Friday, 10 am–5 pm | Saturday, 10 am–2 pm
Sunday, CLOSED

Library Hours are subject to change.
Please visit kpl.gov or call (269) 553-7800
for current information about library service
locations and hours.

Become a Friend

Did you know that becoming a Friends member helps to support Kalamazoo Public Library reading programs? They include the *Summer Reading Challenge*, *Ready to Read*, *Global Reading Challenge* and *Reading Together* as well as the *Great Grown-Up Spelling Bee*. Friends memberships also support scholarships and grants for KPL employees and their innovative ideas.

A membership is a great way for you to share your love of books with others. Becoming a member makes you part of a bookstore that promotes reading by offering books and other material at prices all can afford. Friends recirculates books in the community by accepting donated materials and selling them. The bookstore, located in the lower level of Central, is staffed by helpful and friendly volunteers who are committed to making the book-buying experience a satisfying one.

There are also membership perks, including discount coupons and admission to the members-only preview of our Gift Book sale in November. Members are invited to our annual meeting in May, and to vote on elections to the Friends Board of Directors and on other business conducted by the organization. We provide food and the opportunity to learn more about the Friends goals and accomplishments.

It is easy to join! Just complete the form online at kpl.gov/friends, click on "Join Friends" in the right column, and pay via PayPal or with a credit or debit card, or print the form and mail it with your check. You may also purchase memberships as gifts, using the same links.

Memberships are affordable, and because the Friends is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, any additional gifts are tax-deductible. And if your employer has a matching gift program, your membership can be even more valuable to the Friends. Membership runs from April 1 through March 31 of the following year (based on the Friends fiscal year), but you can join or renew at any time. Join the Friends and become a supporter of reading through the Kalamazoo Public Library programs, and through the sale of affordable books in our community for persons of all ages. ▲



Writers' Block

KPL celebrates independently published writers from Kalamazoo County by sharing their author videos on KPL TV and our YouTube channel to introduce them and their work to Kalamazoo.

If you are a local author and would like to submit a video, please visit kpl.gov/writersblock. ▲

Flip Through the Pages of a Magazine

libby
by
OverDrive



Did you know that your library has a robust collection of digital magazines available at your convenience?

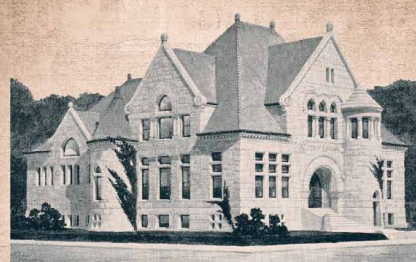
View on your tablet, smartphone, or desktop computer via OverDrive (using the Libby app). To use the service, simply download the free Libby app and create an account using your KPL account information! Choose from popular titles like *Vogue*, *Rolling Stone*, *Health and Fitness*, or explore a variety of obscure titles like *LeFana de L'Aviation*, *dancyu*, *Imaginefx* and more! ▲

ONE place @ kpl

ONEplace hosts free and open to the public workshops on professional and personal development covering a variety of topics: Grant Writing and Research, Board and Staff Development, Social Media and Marketing, Fundraising, Supervision, Management, and more.

If you are running a nonprofit or thinking of starting one, ONEplace offers feedback, guidance, and resources to assist you with your unique concerns. From board training and online directories, to reports, services, and more.

ONEplace also offers Kalamazoo County nonprofit organizations the opportunity to post and view current job openings in "one place." This service is free of charge and receives over 8,000 unique visitors each month! Learn more at kpl.gov/oneplace. ▲



Kalamazoo Public Library 150th Anniversary

Be Part of Our History Celebrate KPL's 150th Anniversary

Kalamazoo Public Library has been an important source for information and a pillar of the community for generations.

Do you have a special memory or a fun story about your family visiting the library? How has Kalamazoo Public Library impacted your life? Do you have photos of the library buildings or events?

Celebrate Kalamazoo Public Library's 150th Anniversary in Fall 2022 by sharing your library story. We are looking for photos and your stories, either written or recorded. Please visit kpl.gov/150 to celebrate with us. ▲



Events and More for CHILDREN, FAMILY, & ALL AGES

Parenting and Birth–5

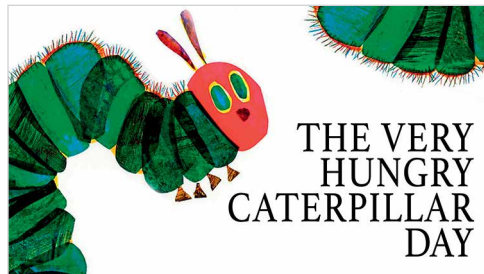


It's Storytime

Every Wednesday in March, April & May, starting March 2

10:30–11 am | KPL Facebook

It's KPL's online storytime program! Join us for songs, rhymes, movement, and great readalouds! New programs posted most every Wednesday morning at 10:30 am.



The Very Hungry Caterpillar Day

Starting Sunday, March 20

Open Hours | Pick-up/All Locations

Stop by all KPL locations during the week of March 20 and pick up a gift bag celebrating *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. Bags will include a book to keep, activities, and more. Best enjoyed by preschoolers. **While supplies last.**

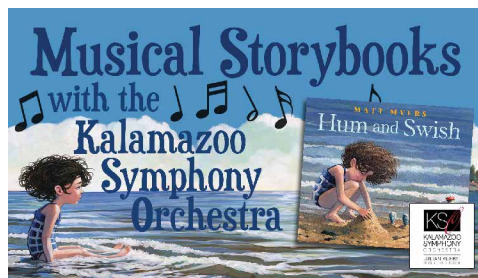


Let's Fingerpaint!

Starting Friday, April 22

Open Hours | Pick-up/All Locations

What better way to explore painting, colors, and creativity than with fingerpaint! Kit will include everything your little artist needs to create a work of art, and have fun in the process! Registration is not required. **Kits will be available at all branches in limited supply.**



Musical Storybooks with the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra

Monday, May 9 | 10:30 & 11:30 am | OSH

Thursday May 12 | 10:30 am | POW

Join the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra musicians for an exciting new Musical Storybook: *Hum and Swish* by Matt Myers! Music brings this wonderful summer-themed picture book to life with a percussion and woodwind soundscape! **Ages 3–6.**

Please register.



25th Annual Party in the Park

Wednesday, May 25 | 10–11 am

Bronson Park & kpl.gov

Join Kalamazoo Public Library in the 25th annual celebration of early childhood literacy! You and your preschool children will enjoy this very special storyhour in Bronson Park with costumed characters, community readers, an early literacy gift with a book and snack for each child included. Bring a blanket to sit on. Portable toilets will be available at the park. Weather cancellations may apply.

This event is FREE and an RSVP is required.

Limited delivery of classroom early literacy bags is available for childcare and preschool locations that are unable to travel to the park this year. Please email R2R@kpl.gov to arrange delivery. Check out special *Party in the Park* online stories available on kpl.gov the day of the event as well!

All Ages

Clark Lewis' Juggling Stunt Show!

Thursday, March 31

2–2:45 pm | CEN/Van Deusen

A thrilling show for all ages! Clark performs masterful juggling, daring circus stunts, magic, sideshow, and more. Plenty of action, humor, and a dynamic rock soundtrack are combined to create an experience beyond the ordinary.

Grades K–5



Bookworms

Saturdays, March 12, April 16 & May 14
4–4:40 pm | Zoom

Join us online for this book club aimed at readers ages 8–11. Read the book and then join us on the date listed for discussion. Books are available for pick-up one month prior to the discussion date and all titles have an eAudiobook edition available on Hoopla/Libby. This event will be hosted on Zoom. **Please register to receive the Zoom link, a copy of the book and select your preferred KPL pickup location.**

March: *The Derby Daredevils*:

***Kenzie Kickstarts a Team* by Kit Rosewater**

April: *Stuntboy, in the Meantime*

by Jason Reynolds and Raul the Third

May: *The Best at It* by Maulik Pancholy

Family

Books & Bellies

Wednesday, March 16, April 20 & May 18
10–11 am | KPL TV

Join Healthy Babies Healthy Start and Kalamazoo Public Library for book talks for expecting parents. Learn about books for baby before baby arrives and start reading. This is a great way to connect with parenting resources in our community and with great books to keep about child rearing and great read-alouds for baby for before and after they arrive.

Outside Storytime

Every Thursday in April and May,
beginning April 7

10:30–11:30 am | OSH/Outside

Join us for stories, songs, and fun outside on the Oshtemo Branch lawn! In the event of inclement weather, storytime will be cancelled.

Spring Festival at Eastwood

Saturday, May 21

12–2 pm | EAS/Outside

Come celebrate the warm weather with us at the Eastwood Branch! There will be games, music, and a live performance from Clark the Juggler!

Events and More for TEENS



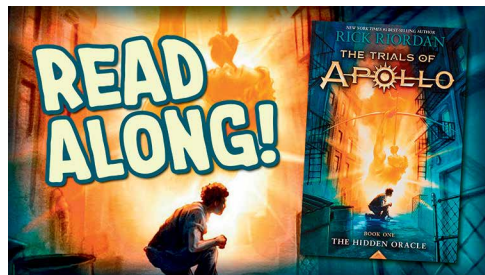
Paint Some Happy Trees

Tuesdays, March 1, April 5 & May 3
3:30–4 pm | Pick-up + KPL TV

Let's get creative and paint some trees, in true Bob Ross fashion. Each month will feature a different theme but will always include trees in some way. No previous painting experience required; the goal is to have some fun and make some art. Bob Ross always said, "We don't make mistakes, just happy little accidents."

Step 1: Please register. You will be notified by email when to pick up supplies. (R)

Step 2: Watch the how-to video on KPL TV!



Read Along!

Every Monday & Wednesday, beginning Monday, March 7
4–4:30 pm | KPL TV

KPL is pleased to announce the triumphant return of Read Along!, the popular online series featuring chapter books read aloud by Miss Natalie. Twice weekly videos will begin in March and continue every Monday and Wednesday. Our first book will be *The Hidden Oracle* from *The Trials of Apollo* series by Rick Riordan. Yes, we will be returning once again to Percy Jackson's world to see how the ancient Greek god of the sun and archery fares in the mortal world as a sixteen-year-old boy.



So You Wanna Play Dungeons & Dragons...

Wednesdays, March 9, April 13 & May 11
5–7 pm | Zoom

Play Dungeons & Dragons with KPL Staff! We'll have a one-shot campaign for all skill levels, led by Dungeon Master Teen Librarian Miss Natalie. No dice or other supplies necessary, just bring your imagination and a sense of adventure. **Please register. (R)**



Comic Book Club

Thursdays, March 10, April 14 & May 12
3:30–4:30 pm | CEN/Teen Studio

This is no ordinary book club. This is a chance to hang out with other manga and comic book fans; chat about what we're reading, watch some anime, eat some snacks, and enjoy a craft or activity. **No registration required, grades 6–12 only.**



Storytelling Through Illustration for Teens

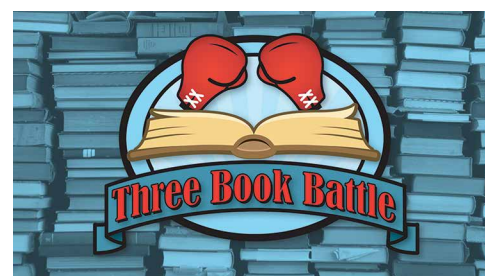
Monday, March 14 | 6–7 pm | Zoom + Pick-up
 Local artist and author Kenji Jumanne Marshall will be leading an instructional, hands-on program for Teens. **Please register to receive your supplies. Zoom link to be provided. (R)**



DIY Jar Gardens

Starting Friday, March 18
Open Hours | CEN/Pick-up

Grow your own garden with this do it yourself take home kit! **Please register. Kits will be available at Central Library. (R)**



Three Book Battle

Wednesday, April 20 | 5–7 pm | Zoom

Three Book Battle returns virtually in 2022! Teens and tweens are invited to register online to receive a TBB kit containing all three books, activities, and a surprise! Registrants are encouraged to read all three books on their own and choose their favorite, then attend the online live session with youth librarians on Wednesday, April 20, 2022 to discuss their favorite books, answer trivia questions, and celebrate Three Book Battle in a new way this year! **No teams necessary; this is an individually motivated program. Grades 6th through 12th. Please register. (R)**

High School Titles

This Poison Heart by Kaylyn Bayron
Boys Run the Riot by Keito Gaku
Check Please by Ngozi Ukazu

Middle School Titles

Ghost Boys by Jewell Parker Rhodes
My Hero Academia by Kōhei Horikoshi
Faithful Spy: Dietrich Bonhoeffer and the Plot to Kill Hitler by John Hendrix

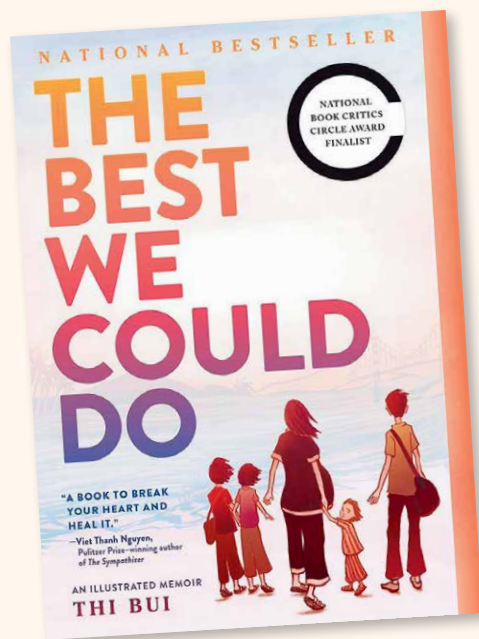
Bullet Journaling Kit

Starting Friday, April 22
Open Hours | CEN/Pick-up

Explore your creative side with our take-home bullet journaling kits, to keep! **Please register. Kits will be available at Central Library. (R)**

For events marked KPL Live, visit kpl.gov/live on day/time of the event to join.

Reading Together 2022 Events for ADULTS and TEENS



This is the first time that a graphic novel has been selected for the *Reading Together* program. This beautifully illustrated and emotional story is an evocative memoir about the search for a better future and a longing for the past. Exploring the anguish of immigration and the lasting effects that displacement has on a child and her family, Thi Bui documents the story of her family's daring escape after the fall of South Vietnam in the 1970s, and the difficulties they faced building new lives for themselves.

Visit readingtogether.us for more info, including:

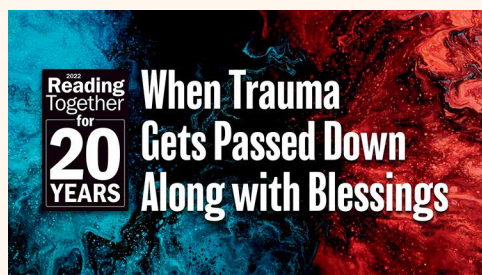
A video recording of the preview presentation by Dr. Gwen Tarbox from Western Michigan University on *Getting the Most Out of Reading Graphic Novels*.

A complete listing of local book discussions where community residents can talk with each other about *The Best We Could Do*.



Displaced Persons in Southwest Michigan

Tuesday, March 8 | 6-7:30 pm | KPL Live
Learn from a refugee community services specialist, a program coordinator, and an ESL coordinator about services for displaced peoples in our area. Hear personal stories and learn about the process prior to arrival to the US, and the challenges and adjustments faced as they resettle in our community. Presented by Sara Blomgren from Bethany Christian Services, Shukurani Nsengiyumva with the Kalamazoo Refugee Resource Collaborative, and Wessam Abdelaziz from Kalamazoo Public Schools.



When Trauma Gets Passed Down Along with Blessings

Tuesday, March 10 | 6-7:30 pm | KPL Live
Join E Simon Wolff for a talk and Q & A on intergenerational trauma — trauma that gets passed down from those who directly experience it to subsequent generations. E will share about how intergenerational trauma impacts and manifests in individuals, families, and collectives of people of shared cultural, racial, and/or ethnic identities, whose ancestors experienced significant trauma and oppression.

E Simon Wolff (they/them) is an antiracist white racialized, queer, nonbinary person of the Ashkenazi Jewish diaspora living with chronic illness on Anishinaabe land and water known to settler colonial people as Traverse City, MI. E is a politicized somatic trauma healing practitioner trained through Somatic Experiencing International. They are also an Ancestral Healing Practitioner trained in the Ancestral Medicine model of lineage repair work. In addition to working with clients 1:1, E also facilitates group praxis and education at the intersections of somatic, ancestral, and cultural healing in service to collective liberation. To learn more about E's work, please visit: elishevasimonwolff.com.



Storytelling Through Illustration for Teens

Monday, March 14 | 6-7 pm | Zoom + Pick-up
Local artist and author Kenjji Jumanne Marshall will be leading an instructional, hands-on program for Teens. **Please register to receive your supplies. Zoom link to be provided. R**



We are Our Stories: Being Asian and Asian American in Kalamazoo

Tuesday, March 15 | 6-7:30 pm | KPL Live
Come listen to Asian and Asian American members of the Asian American/Pacific Islander (AAPI) Affinity Group from Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation (TRHT) Kalamazoo, a comprehensive, national, and community-based process developed by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to identify and address the historic and contemporary effects of racism. Hear histories, stories, and experiences from community members about their families and their cultural identities.

Meet the Author: Thi Bui, author of *The Best We Could Do*

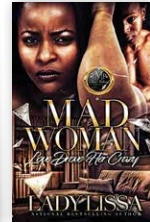
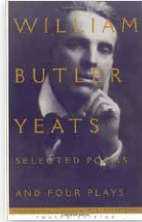
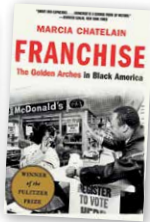
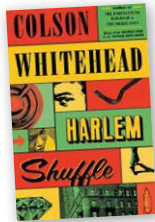
Tuesday, March 22 | 7-8:30 pm | KPL Live

Kalamazoo Public Library is pleased to announce its *Reading Together 2022* title, *The Best We Could Do: An Illustrated Memoir* by award-winning author and cartoonist Thi Bui. **The author will speak virtually via KPL Live. Copies of the book are now available at all KPL locations. For more information, please visit readingtogether.us. R**



For events marked KPL Live, visit kpl.gov/live on day/time of the event to join.

Events and More for ADULTS



Page Turners Book Club

Mondays, March 7, April 4, & May 2
6:30–7:30 pm | Zoom

Engage in a thought-provoking conversation about books, exchange perspectives, and get to know your neighbors—virtually!

Please register so we can contact you with information on when and how to connect online! **R**

March: *Harlem Shuffle* by Colson Whitehead

April: *Seek You* by Kristen Radtke

May: *Franchise* by Marcia Chatelain

Reading Race Book Group

Tuesdays, March 8 & May 10
6:30–8 pm | Zoom

This book club, co-sponsored by the Society for History and Racial Equity (SHARE) and KPL's Anti-racism Transformation



Team, focuses on race and racism in American society. Join us virtually for a discussion of *The Other Black Girl* by Zakiya Dalila Harris in March, and *The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together* by Heather McGhee in May. **These discussions will be held online using Zoom due to COVID-19; please register on KPL's website so we can contact you with information on how to connect online!** **R**

GLAMA Acoustic Slow Jam

Wednesday, March 9,
Tuesdays, April 12 & May 10
5:30–7:30 pm | CEN/Van Deusen

The Great Lakes Acoustic Music Association will lead a fun jam based on simple chord progressions and slow- to medium-tempo times. All acoustic stringed instruments welcome.

GLAMA Community Sing

Wednesday, March 16 &
Tuesdays, April 19 & May 17
5:30–7:30 pm | CEN/Van Deusen Room

Come and sing along with Will Willing, joined by Mike Seigel and specially invited guest local singers. Lyric sheets provided.

Classics Revisited

Thursdays, March 17, April 21 & May 19
2:30–4 pm | Zoom

Book discussion group, held on Zoom until we are able to return to the Board Room for in-person meetings. **Please register.** **R**

March: *Tristram Shandy* by Laurence Sterne

April: *Selected Poetry* by William Butler Yeats

May: *Time and Again* by Jack Finney

KPL Digital—How To

Thursday, March 17 | 6 pm | CEN
Thursday, April 14 | 2 pm | CEN

Hoopla? Libby? Freegal? What does it all mean? I just want to listen to audiobooks on my phone! If you have questions about using KPL's digital collections (ebooks, eaudiobooks, emusic, evideo, emagazines) or would just like to hear more about what is available to all KPL patrons online, this program is for you. We'll talk about the strengths of each of our digital platforms and give a basic how-to for finding and accessing the titles you are interested in. The focus will be on the "best practices" that make checking out digital titles a breeze!



Dungeons and Dragons Character Creation

Saturday, March 19 | 1–2:30 pm | Zoom
Wednesday, March 23 | 6–7:30 pm | Zoom

Join KPL's Dungeon Master Amy for a class on making your own Dungeons and Dragons character. We will walk through a character creation together, step-by-step, and then have time for participants to start creating their own character. No previous knowledge of the game is necessary to attend. However, if you are new to the game, consider also attending a session of the Dungeons and Dragons 101 program. **This program is for adults 18+.**

Please register. **R**

Urban Fiction Book Club

Tuesdays, March 29, April 26 & May 31
6–7 pm | POW

If you love to read Urban Fiction, join us for a fun-filled and open-minded discussion of some of the hottest titles around. All urban readers are welcome!

March: *Boyfriend #2*

by Caleb Alexander & Erick S. Gray

April: *Mad Woman: Love Drove Her Crazy*
by Lady Lissa

May: *Made for Loving You* by Bianca Xaviera

Life In Kalamazoo

Saturday, April 9
11 am–12:30 pm | EAS/Community Room

Join your fellow residents for the continuation of this series of facilitated conversations about life in our community. Local guests will be invited to join in the conversation and the series will rotate between library branches.

Please register. **R**

Dungeons and Dragons 101

Saturday, April 23 | 1–2:30 pm | Zoom
Wednesday, April 27 | 6–7:30 pm | Zoom

Come learn the basics of playing Dungeons and Dragons with KPL's own Dungeon Master Amy! This program is intended for people who have little or no previous experience playing but want to learn more. We will go over the basics of the game, do some demonstrations, and have time to ask questions. No dice or other supplies needed. **This program is for adults 18+. Please register.** **R**

Mama's Family: Finding Your Female Ancestors

Monday, May 2
6:30–7:30 pm | EAS/Community Room

Researching your female ancestors can be a challenge. Locating historical documents can be difficult since most of these records often focused on the male head-of-household, and women often had name changes. This 2-part workshop will explore some common roadblocks and will provide resources to help you break through these brick walls. **Space is limited, please register.** **R**



Note from the Director



Ryan Wieber
KPL Director

Spring is around the corner, and the winter and COVID blues are soon to be pushed aside as we find renewal at the library with good books and programs for all ages this spring. *Reading Together* celebrates its 20th year with the graphic novel by Thi Bui: *The Best We Could Do*. This memoir tells the story of a Vietnamese family and their escape from South Vietnam after the fall of Saigon, and the impact their subsequent emigration to America had on their lives. Author Thi Bui gives her live, online presentation on March 22 at 7pm on KPL Live. See page 6 for the solid lineup of programs and discussions on the book and its related subjects that are scheduled for March.

Ready to Read's *Party in the Park* returns on May 25 to Bronson Park! After a couple years of virtual-only, KPL is happy to bring this big outside preschool story time event back to in-person status complete with costumed characters, community readers, and an early literacy bag with a free book. Register your preschool class or your preschooler at kpl.gov/r2r, and a limited number of early literacy bags are also available for those classes unable to attend in person this year.

Spread the word about Books and Bellies, an online program produced jointly by Healthy Babies Healthy Start and KPL librarians. Get introduced to the benefits of reading to babies before their arrival and stay on top of knowing the best or latest read-aloud titles. A new program arrives monthly and can be found on KPL TV at kpl.gov.

Later this fall, KPL launches a season of celebration recognizing 150 years of service. On October 12, 1872, the library opened its doors for the first time with a collection of books for the residents of Kalamazoo, and since 1893, the main downtown location has sat at the corner of Rose and South Streets. Originally part of the public school system, it also partnered for many years with the Kalamazoo Public Museum (now Kalamazoo Valley Museum) and the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts. KPL has historically provided Kalamazoo with a recognized excellence in public library service (National Library of Year in 2002), has innovatively offered new programs and services, and has provided the places, spaces, and books to inspire and engage library lovers and readers of all ages. Plans are underway for the festivities, including an online exhibit, displays, and special programs at all locations. ▲

KPL LOCATIONS:



Central Library (CEN)
315 S. Rose St.



Eastwood Branch Library (EAS)
1112 Gayle Ave.



Oshtemo Branch Library (OSH)
7265 W. Main St.



Alma Powell Branch Library (POW)
1000 W. Paterson St.



Washington Square Branch Library (WSQ)
1244 Portage St.

**For more information,
please call our main number,
(269) 553-7800**

2021–22 LIBRARY BOARD

Jannie Williams	President	Lisa A. Godfrey	Trustee
Christine Kindy	Vice President	Christy Roth	Trustee
Jennifer Moore	Treasurer	Annee Dunn	Trustee
Anna Myers Moss	Secretary		

CREDITS

Kalamazoo Public Library's Marketing and Communications Office publishes *PRISM* with support from the Friends of the Library. Contact us with your comments or suggestions, call (269) 553-7879 or email mac@kpl.gov.



This edition of *PRISM*
is printed on
recycled paper.